

STATE OF SOUTH AUSTRALIA

Rural Production, 1947-48

This Bulletin repeats the principal statistics relating to cereals (some details slightly amended) and livestock recently published in Bulletins 10 and 14 and gives data concerning other crops, exports, manures used, implements, employment, etc. some items being provisional. Particulars re varieties of wheat, barley and oats were published in Bulletin 16.

In the various tables in this bulletin, the particulars for 1947/48 are compared with the previous two years and also with the pre-war year 1938/39.

Apart from the comparisons shown in the tables, it is noted that there were three distinct phases in rural activities during the 20 years to 1946. During the few years prior to 1930, the acreage under wheat for grain had increased very rapidly and reached the maximum acreage in that year while the numbers of sheep and cattle had decreased. The second phase was from 1930-1943, when there were substantial increases in the flocks and herds and in the areas of many other crops but decreases in the wheat areas, particularly from 1940 to 1943 when there were shortages of superphosphate and manpower and also controlled planning. The third phase was from 1943 to 1946 with the reversed trend of increased wheat acreages and decreased numbers of sheep and cattle - drought losses being very severe. The present tendency is for sheep and cattle numbers to be increasing after the drought with cereal areas generally stationary, though barley and oats have been increasing with wheat decreasing.

Comparing the season 1947-48 with 1930-31, it is noted that there have been decreased acreages for wheat, hay, orchards and tobacco but increases for barley, oats, rye, green fodder, peas, lucerne and clover seed, vines, potatoes and other vegetables, chicory and canary seed. There have also been new crops such as flax, licorice, herbs, blue boiler peas, vegetable seeds, mustard seed, etc. Several of the new crops and some of those with increased acreages during the war have decreased again since. During the same period there were increases of sheep, cattle and pigs but a decrease in horses.

The decrease in hay and also in other crop areas would be associated with the decrease in horse numbers as would also the increase in tractor numbers. There were increased areas of pastures top-dressed and also of crops grown for green fodder, which would be associated with the increased numbers of sheep and cattle.

I AREAS UNDER CROP

Particulars	1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
	Acres	Acres	Acres	Acres
Wheat for Grain	3,080,401	2,165,004	2,518,948	2,374,873
Barley for Grain	457,039	441,830	502,005	562,405
Oats for Grain	266,842	369,733	252,325	308,783
Rye for Grain	5,273	33,311	21,753	25,029
Peas - Field	16,570	14,033	11,371	13,252
Lucerne, Clover etc. Seed	2,342	19,933	19,855	15,712
Flax	4	6,292	2,599	3,061
Hay	519,309	484,060	329,307	296,261
Green Fodder	276,021	191,501	122,221	142,051
Vines Wine	36,457	b 40,112	b 44,245	b 42,843
Drying, Table	21,563	b 17,328	b 13,976	b 16,042
Orchards	28,943	27,223	28,126	28,338
Vegetables - Potatoes	4,290	8,853	6,191	6,202
Other Domestic	5,446	9,319	10,092	11,141
Nurseries	177	137	140	98
Chicory	31	115	66	93
Tobacco	39	-	-	-
Canary Seed	3,076	320	95	58
Mustard Seed	-	2,575	993	342
Other (a)	267	449	151	252
Total Crops	4,724,090	3,824,128	3,884,459	3,846,836

(a) includes Vegetable Seeds, Herbs, Licorice, Linseed Maize, etc.

(b) Grapes from areas normally used for drying were sent to distilleries.

Vegetables for 1947-48 (1946-47) include Green Peas 5,401 (3,828) Turnips and Swedes 452 (526), Carrots 337 (328), Onions 583 (521) Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 639 (651), Tomatoes 879 (937, Cabbages 422 (511) Cauliflowers 501 (499), French Beans 365 (445), Beetroot 154 (216), Lettuce 300 (336) Celery 357 (385), Blue Boiler Peas 70 (61) acres.

II YIELDS OF CROPS

Particulars		1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Wheat	Bush.	31,674,418	21,033,841	27,906,001	32,493,942
Barley	"	7,541,090	7,566,146	8,424,061	15,363,461
Oats	"	2,401,128	3,178,450	2,780,364	5,394,261
Rye	"	18,469	140,116	69,754	109,950
Peas - Field	"	96,329	99,998	121,557	232,822
Hay	Tons	585,554	521,957	432,955	443,659
Seeds (Clover, etc.)	Cwt.	2,967	16,720	14,910	21,439
Potatoes	Tons	18,487	35,097	29,212	34,181
Onions	"	3,892	4,779	4,774	5,350
Tomatoes	Bush.	226,691	248,206	302,078	294,356
Green Peas	"	97,918	133,921	182,231	244,668
Carrots	Tons	1,117	3,538	2,883	2,937
Wine	Gall.	11,147,046	20,213,680	25,422,474	26,000,337
Currants	Cwt.	191,381	89,345	55,937	133,641
Sultanas	"	192,926	130,586	127,695	205,734
Raisins	"	40,212	45,800	37,226	21,425
Apples	Bush.	808,020	1,001,237	717,811	989,440
Apricots	"	343,569	414,321	461,233	461,784
Peaches	"	149,602	148,057	118,500	189,177
Pears	"	195,995	193,357	276,781	191,947
Plums, Prunes	"	134,030	139,802	114,967	145,142
Oranges	"	815,460	860,885	818,220	925,995
Lemons	"	55,862	28,523	37,832	56,187
Almonds	Cwt.	9,994	10,854	9,352	12,270

YIELDS PER ACRE

Wheat	Bush.	10.28	9.72	11.08	13.68.5
Barley	"	16.50	17.12	16.78	27.32
Oats	"	9.00	8.60	11.01	17.47
Hay	Tons	1.13	1.08	1.31	1.50
April-Nov. Rain	Inch	10.00	40.74	10.13	13.93

Other Vegetable Yields for 1947-48 (1946-47) included - Parsnips 843 (984) tons, Swedes and Turnips 2,620 (2,155) tons; Beetroot 1,343 (1,660) tons; Pumpkins, Triambles etc. 3,727 (3,784) tons; French Beans 63,668 (79,185) bushels; Broad Beans 7,300 (7,237) bushels, Cauliflowers 162,135 (150,901) dozen; Cabbages 188,840 (213,627) dozen, Lettuce 162,507 (171,612) cases; Celery 177,590 (213,917) crates; Silver Beet 18,356 (19,027) dozen bunches.

Other Fruit yields for 1947-48 (1946-47) included cherries 5,871 (25,077) Figs 36,790 (14,780), Nectarines 26,221 (14,793) grape Fruit 19,099 (21,676), Quinces 26,240 (23,373), Loquats 2,399 2,055) bushels, Walnuts 600 (675) cwt.

Berry Fruits were:- Raspberries 841 (892) Gooseberries 719 1,090) Strawberries 1,305 (1,475), Black currants 66 (132), red currants 24 (20), Loganberries 94 (137), Blackberries 293 (305) cwt.

Oranges were specified as Naval 667,167 (579,425) Valencia 79,391 (161,818) Seville and Poorman 8,311 (6,624) Mandarine 25,119 26,973). Other seeded types 46,007 (43,380) bushels.

Pears were Canning 139,230 (192,816), Other 52,717 (83,965) bushels.

Peaches were Canning 88,868 (35,886), Other 100,309 (82,614) bushels. Plums were 69,331 (39,187) and prunes 75,811 (75,780) bushels.

The wine production of 26,000,337 (25,422,474) gallons greatly exceeded the earlier record of 16,159,595 gallons in 1926-27. Considerable quantities of drying grapes during the last 3 seasons were sent to the distilleries and wineries, resulting in the record production of wine and decreased quantities of dried vine fruits. The quantity of distillation wine was 15,347,887 (15,792,389) gallons.

RECORD YIELDS. Record yields of crops of importance during the 1947-48 season were barley, oats, wine, oranges and almonds. Records have been as follows:- Wheat 1931-32 48,093,102 bushels, Barley 1947/48 15,363,461 bushels, Oats 1947-48 5,394,261 bushels, Wine 1947/48 26,000,337 gallons, Currants 1943-44 209,140 cwt. Sultanas 1943-44 333,300 cwt. Raisins 1940-41 89,557 cwt. Apples 1940-41 1,750,000 bushels, Oranges 1947-48 925,995 bushels, Pears 1939-40 279,311 bushels, Almonds 1947/48 12,270 cwts, Apricots 1943-44 551,734 bushels.

III OVERSEA EXPORTS (Years ended June)

Products		1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Barley	Bush	2,248,212	700,910	2,096,668	7,923,702
Wheat	Bush.	18,486,303	2,747,022	3,973,043	9,697,821
Flour	Tons	86,678	104,892	142,423	131,061
Butter	lb.	7,385,564	2,407,272	5,969,371	7,205,794
Cheese	lb.	12,907,683	5,778,339	16,624,113	15,899,156
Pork, bacon	lb.	466,462	4,606,524	2,408,724	1,121,398
Mutton	carc.	3,299	16,063	30,444	22,324
Lamb	carc.	667,248	104,861	322,422	400,072
Wool (as greasy)	lb.	87,272,802	96,724,000	91,088,000	90,618,000
Currants, raisins	lb.	42,692,777	18,735,731	13,212,916	23,268,975
Wine	gall.	3,440,509	1,355,252	2,216,289	2,243,003
Tree fruits - fresh, dried, etc.	£	275,074	100,779	262,810	411,209
Eggs	£	98,911	443,022	766,925	861,614

IV MANURE USED

Particulars		1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Crops manured	Acres	4,281,419	3,035,536	3,376,513	3,377,126
Manure used	Tons	179,118	109,548	139,532	152,357
Cropped area manured	%	90.6	79.4	86.9	87.8
Manure per acre	lbs.	93.7	80.8	92.6	101.1
Pastures manured	Acres	1,095,120	853,699	1,112,130	1,670,858
Manure used	Tons	56,325	37,599	54,684	71,396
Manure per acre	lbs	115.2	98.7	110.1	96.4

The quantity of manure is that used for producing the crops grown in the seasons stated.

The proportionally lesser acreage under wheat had had a tendency to increase the figures for average lbs. used per acre on crops, 83.3 in 1930-31 to 93.7 in 1938-39, but the shortage in available supplies had caused a decrease to 71.9 lbs. in 1943-44 but it has increased again to 101.1 lbs. for 1947/48. The percentage of cropped land manured also fell from 90.6% in 1938-39 to 69.8% in 1943-44 and increased to 87.8% for 1947-48. The shortage had also been the cause of lesser acreages top-dressed with smaller dressings per acre from 1938-39 to 1943-44, but with increases the last three years. Associated with the subject of top-dressed pastures, it is noted that 114,708 acres of lucerne and 73,784 acres of clover and grasses other than native grasses were grazed during the year, apart from lucerne, clover, etc. harvested for seed or hay.

Particulars re fertilisers used for 1947-48 were:-

Crop	Area Manured	Super-	Other	Total per acre
		phosphate	Fertilisers	
	Acres	Tons	Tons	Lbs.
Wheat for Grain	2,287,839	92,882	104	91,04
Other Cereals, Hay	946,406	41,121	83	97.53
Vegetables	14,659	2,169	3,398	850.68
Fruits, Vines	41,910	3,399	5,646	483.43
Other Crops	86,312	3,463	91	92.23
Total Crops	3,377,126	143,034	9,322	101.06
Pastures	1,670,858	71,625	271	96.38
Grand Total	5,047,984	214,659	9,593	99.51

ENSILAGE

		1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Quantity made	Tons	6,086	4,664	4,739	6,531
Ensilage Stocks March	Tons	N.A.	3,186	2,658	5,265

VI LIVESTOCK ETC.

Sheep	No.	9,936,586	6,786,538	7,958,618	9,055,237
Cattle - Dairying	"	165,110	175,696	186,920	196,739
Other	"	153,787	198,400	237,060	248,548
Horses	"	195,834	115,949	109,274	100,619
Pigs	"	71,292	119,986	134,033	100,343
Ewes Mated	"	4,202,848	3,036,031	3,748,453	4,090,231
Lambs Marked	"	3,077,634	1,469,831	2,837,308	3,099,436
Wool production	Lbs.	102,888,121	73,603,731	93,019,593	105,000,000
Butter made	"	20,716,584	18,541,197	22,043,426	21,500,000
Cheese made	"	18,457,598	22,478,873	28,601,047	25,750,000
Milk production	Galls	72,500,000	79,370,000	93,950,000	91,000,000
Bacon and Ham	Lbs	5,987,363	11,734,764	11,354,857	11,300,000
Slaughterings		1938	1945	1946	1947
Sheep, Lambs	No.	1,588,507	2,016,953	1,661,801	1,659,685
Cattle, Calves	"	167,451	147,541	146,196	147,503
Pigs	"	150,369	206,298	158,856	174,845

Drought losses in the years 1944-45 and 1945-46 had reduced stock numbers considerably but sheep and cattle both recorded substantial increases during the past two seasons. Specially pleasing features are the increased numbers of lambs marked and the number of ewes. The cattle total of 445,287 exceeds the previous record of 425,811 in 1923 and the number of dairying cows (in milk, dry and springing heifers) - 196,739 - exceeds the previous record of 187,566 for March 1944. The reported losses from drought and all other causes for 1947-48 (1946-47) were Sheep 414,971 (379,992). Cattle 14,807 (14,829) Horses 3,755 (4,450) and Pigs 5,033 (6,590).

VII PERSONS ENGAGED PERMANENTLY

Particulars	1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Males	41,421	35,746	38,128	38,067
Females	2,942	5,504	4,974	5,823
Persons	44,363	41,250	43,102	43,890

Particulars have been collected under the following headings.

	Occupiers Lessees, etc.		Unpaid Relatives		Paid Employees	
	1947	1948	1947	1948	1947	1948
Males No.	26,849	27,225	2,898	2,423	8,381	8,419
Females "	3,291	4,089	1,018	916	665	818

In 1940-41 particulars were collected showing how principally engaged:-

	Cultivating		Dairying	Pastoral	Total
	Males No.	Females No.			
Males No.	26,487		4,373	7,797	38,657
Females No.		414	2,334	79	2,827

VIII. MACHINERY, IMPLEMENTS

	1938-39	1945-46	1946-47	1947-48
Tractors	No.	5,969	9,211	9,456
Engines (stationary)	"	16,841	19,894	21,121
Ploughs	"	30,609	33,834	33,379
Cultivators, etc.	"	18,923	26,652	25,344
Harrows (leaves)	"	105,977	100,856	104,614
Grain Drills	"	19,203	18,167	18,074
Binders	"	10,632	9,610	9,582
Headers, Stippers, etc.	"	N.A.	15,189	14,966
Milking Machines	"	684	2,349	2,839
Shearing Machines	"	N.A.	3,976	4,306

Details for 1947-48 were as follows:-

Tractors. Crawler or track type 2,215, Rubber tyred 5,660, Steel 1,701.

Milking Machines. Unit size 1 and unspecified - 106, 2 - 1,468;

3 - 902, 4 - 299, 5 - 34, 6 - 24, 8 and over - 6, Total 2,839.

Shearing Machines as per number of stands. 1 and unspecified - 1,152,

2 - 2,316; 3 - 437; 4 - 185; 5 - 66, 6 - 66, All other - 84.

Total 4,306.

Particulars for other machinery were not collected for 1947-48, but details for 1946-47 were as follows:-

Ploughs. Single Furrow 12,571, Double furrow 20,808.

Cultivators. Tandem disc. 4,103, Other disc 2,892, Spring tooth 6,527

Rigid Tine 6,439, Rotary hoes 752, Scarifiers 2,422 Other 2,209.

Grain Drills. Combine type 12,178. Other types 5,896.

Fertiliser distributors and broadcasters - 2,935.

Windmills 24,924, Chaff Cutters 12,023, Mowers 4,842,

Hay Rakes 7,207, Hay Presses and Balers 654, Spraying Plants

(power driven) 1,275, Fruit Graders 311, Potato Diggers 299.

Motor trucks, utilities or lorries 12,899.

Particulars have not been collected in recent years, but in 1940-41 there were reported to have been 19,957 separators, 6,015 winnowers, 6,720 harvesters, 7,024 strippers and 5,604 reaper threshers.

IX. BEEKEEPING

During 1947-48, the production of 5,298,161 lbs. of honey was the third highest the record of 8,672,753 lbs. being produced in 1946-47. 85,405 lbs. of beeswax were produced compared with the previous year's record of 105,788 lbs. There were 1,186 beekeepers with 73,437 productive and 19,614 unproductive hives.

Statistical Office,
ADELAIDE.

21st October, 1947.

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GOVERNMENT STATIST